

photovoltaic element and the protective layer [is separable] can be detached from the other constituent members by irradiating the solar cell module with electron rays.

as 56. (Amended) A solar cell module comprising a substrate, a filler, a photovoltaic element and a protective layer, wherein at least one of the substrate, the filler, the photovoltaic element and the protective layer [is separable] can be detached from the other constituent members by immersing the solar cell module in a liquid.

Remarks

The claims are 1-64, with claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 41 and 49-64 being independent. The Examiner has withdrawn claims 9-24, 33-48 and 57-64 from consideration, as being directed to non-elected subject matter. Claims 1-3, 6, 25-27, 30 and 49-56 have been amended to clarify the invention; no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the present claims is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has required a new title. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the title to read
--SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SOLAR CELL MODULE HAVING
DETACHABLE CONSTITUENT MEMBERS--; Applicants submit that this

title is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claims 1-8, 25-32 and 49-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended the claims to clarify what is intended by "separable". In some instances, the term has been replaced with --detachable--; in others, the term has been replaced with --can be separated--. In light of Applicants' amendment of the claims to address the Examiner's concern, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1-7, 25-31 and 49-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kazuhide. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The present invention is directed to a semiconductor device comprising a substrate, a filler, and a semiconductor element. The present invention is further directed to a solar cell module comprising a substrate, a filler, a photovoltaic element and a protective layer. In each of these embodiments, the semiconductor element or the photoconductive element is capable of being separated from the substrate. In other embodiments, at least one of the constituent elements can be separated from the others by heating, heating and moistening, irradiating or immersing in

a liquid. In this way, replacement of faulty semiconductor device or solar cell module constituents is facilitated, and reuse of constituent members is made possible.


Kazuhide discloses a solar cell module having a substrate, a filler, a solar element and a resin laminate/protective layer. Kazuhide further discloses that a transparent resin coating sheet is capable of being separated from the solar cell module. Kazuhide neither discloses nor suggests that the semiconductor element can be detached from the substrate of a particular solar cell. Likewise, Kazuhide does not disclose or suggest that the solar cell module can easily be separated into its constituents.

It is clear that Kazuhide does not anticipate the present invention. In fact, Kazuhide fails to disclose the key feature of the present invention, namely the provision of a solar cell module or semiconductor device constituent members which are readily detachable from one another. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this art rejection.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and passage to issue of the present case.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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